UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1998/627
9 July 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 JULY 1998 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the original of the letter dated 9 July 1998, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Blagoj Handziski, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, concerning the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force. I should be grateful if you would bring the contents of this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Naste CALOVSKI
Ambassador

98-20033 (E) 100798

Annex

Letter dated 9 July 1998 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia addressed to the Secretary-General

As you know, during the time you prepared each of your reports to the Security Council on the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (UNPREDEP) in the Republic of Macedonia, I used to acquaint you, in writing, with the position of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, as a host country. Considering that in paragraph 25 of your last report, you committed yourself, should the Security Council so wish, to making specific proposals for the possible reinforcement of its military potential, this time also, I would like to acquaint you with the position of my Government.

Firstly, in my letter of 17 May 1998, I gave a number of reasons why we requested the continuation of the UNPREDEP mission beyond 31 August 1998.

Secondly, I acquainted you with the reasons why we expected the Security Council to adopt a resolution extending the mission for six months under the same mandate, structure and proportions.

Considering the further deterioration of the situation to the north of our borders, I would like to remind you that we have endorsed the option of an eventual increase in the military component, in cooperation with, and upon the agreement of the authorities of the Republic of Macedonia, maintaining the same mandate, structure and proportion.

I would also like to inform you that your deliberations on reinforcing the Civilian Police with an additional 20 civilian policemen, in cooperation with, and upon the agreement of the authorities of the Republic of Macedonia, could be successful and could contribute to more efficient monitoring.

Hoping that the Security Council will very soon adopt a resolution, that will reflect our aforementioned position, I would like to assure you of my highest consideration.

(Signed) Blagoj HANDZISKI